

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Sutures can be reliably applied to the tissue of sensitive organs in a predetermined and limited depth with minimal surgical skills through the use of a curved suture needle and a suture control apparatus. The suture control apparatus, which can be adjustable, comprises a pair of needle guides that are separated by a space, and a locator surface for engagement with the suture-receiving tissue in the space between the needle guides, with the pair of needle guides and locator surface being preferably carried by a handle. Preferably, the pair of needle guides are curved to provide a radius of curvature substantially equal to the radius of curvature of the curved suture needle. The radius of the curvature of the suture needle and curved needle guides, the distance of the space between the pair of curved needle guides and the location and shape of the locator surface, when pressed against tissue to receive a suture, provide a predetermined and limited depth of penetration of a suture needle and suture, when the curved suture needle is threaded through the pair of curved needle guides and the tissue in the space therebetween.